Course Description
Development of interactive conversational skills with progress toward a more academic style of speaking. Review of grammatical structures of German in context of class discussions, enrichment of active vocabulary and understanding of different levels of formality of spoken German. Prerequisite: GER 231 or the equivalent with a grade of C or higher.

Program Learning Outcomes
This is a general education course and no specific program learning outcomes for a major are addressed.

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes
This is not a core curriculum course and no core curriculum objectives are measured.

Student Learning Outcomes/Course Objectives
At the end of GER 235, you should be able to speak at ease at some length and with reasonable grammatical accuracy on topics we have covered in class, as well as on topics of special interest to you. Moreover, you will develop skills for listening to lengthier narratives and determining the pertinent information in a spoken narrative. Likewise, you will learn and develop social skills and communicative strategies necessary for engaging in conversation with others in German. Finally, you will develop strategies for acquiring new vocabulary and use German to in extended conversation.

Course Requirements and Guidelines
German 235 is a conversation course. Listening to and and speaking German is what we do in the classroom. As such, German is the language of the classroom. English will not be spoken in German 235. Class meetings are designed for you to have maximum opportunity to learn and speak about topics selected to encourage everyone to actively participate in a give and take of opinions and ideas.

Conversational Interviews
You will have two conversational interviews with the professor. The first interview, scheduled for the first week of the semester, is intended to determine your present conversational abilities and will be used to help define your personal goals to accomplish for the second oral interview, which will be graded. These interviews will focus not only on grammar and vocabulary, but also on social skills and communicative strategies. These goals may include listening to German music, reading a German book, or watching German films, depending on your personal interest and present skill level. These goals are negotiable. You will have one week from the time of your first oral interview to decide if you wish to change your personal goals. The grade on the second interview will be based on your ability to reach your personal
goals. You will turn in your written list of personal goal assignments at the time of the second oral interview.

**Class meetings**
During class meetings, you will be engaging in individual and group activities designed to help you expand your vocabulary, to brainstorm ideas, and to speak openly on the topics of the course. Your participation in classroom activities is a prerequisite for your success in German 235.

**Presentations**
During the final two weeks of the semester, class will be devoted to your own presentations on topics stemming from our discussions. We will plan for two 15-minute presentations per day, allowing ample time for questions and answer. Everyone is expected to participate in the question and answer session following each presentation.

**Required Texts**
There are no required texts for GER 235. All required materials required will be available online in D2L and/or provided in course handouts.

**Highly recommended:** Zorach and Melin, *English Grammar for Students of German* is available through amazon.com and other online retailers.

**Grading**

A. (30%) **Class Participation** constitutes the largest portion of your final grade. It is based on your level of preparedness as well as willingness to engage in conversation and other activities. You must be in class in order to receive consideration for full participation points.

B. (25%) **Oral Presentation** during the final weeks of the semester will count 25% toward your final course grade. Your oral presentation will be evaluated for grammatical accuracy, but most importantly on clarity of purpose and organization, as well as successful and appropriate use of communicative strategies to share your message.

C. (25%) **Oral Interview**, scheduled during finals week, will count 25% toward your total course grade. The oral interview will be evaluated for grammatical accuracy, clarity of purpose and organization, successful and appropriate use of communicative strategies to share you message, and the quality of work evidenced toward achieving your personal goals.

D. (20%) **Short written quizzes on course content** will count 20% toward your total course grade. These quizzes will be based on the topics of our conversations and are intended as opportunities for you to demonstrate your ability to use the new vocabulary to briefly comment on an aspect of each unit’s topic.

**Class Participation**
Class participation is one of the key elements for success in a language class. The more you participate, the more you learn, and the more you contribute to a positive learning environment for everyone.
Participating in class basically means that you interact with other students and the professor frequently, and in an appropriate manner. Above all, we are respectful of each other and each other’s opinions. Your initiative and your imagination are essential elements in class participation. Another essential element is participation is preparation. While we will not have lengthy homework assignments as you may be accustomed to in other language courses, there will be material you need to review in preparation for our meetings.

Please remember that making mistakes is a crucial part of the learning process. Therefore, making mistakes during class will not affect your participation grade. Not making mistakes because you don’t participate will, however, adversely affect your grade. You need to use German to share your ideas, and the more you participate, the easier it will become to speak. So, keep in mind that your willingness to speak, no matter the mistakes, is what will contribute the most to your learning in German 235.

You can earn up to a maximum participation score of 100 points per 3 for each class meeting. Clearly, you can only accumulate participate points if you are present in class. The following are general guidelines for your participation grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85-100</td>
<td>You come to class well prepared, show initiative by volunteering information without having to be called on, and offer answers to questions asked by me or other students. You contribute interesting suggestions and observations that improve the class, are willing to be a part of any activity during the class period and help other students to the extent of your ability.</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-84</td>
<td>You come to class prepared, show initiative and participate frequently. You pay attention to others, but do not necessarily volunteer without having to be called on.</td>
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<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>You are not well prepared for class and only participate if called by name. You are not engaged in group activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-49</td>
<td>You are not prepared for class. You rarely respond questions, don’t pay particular attention to explanations, and generally are not engaged in group activities nor class discussion. You are distracting to others or you get way off-topic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-19</td>
<td>You do not participate in class. You chat with classmates on topics having nothing to do with class, do homework, send and read text messages, sleep, read the paper, daydream or otherwise simply do not participate in class. You speak English in class or divert the attention of the other students.</td>
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Please note: Should you behave in a disruptive or uncivil manner, the instructor reserves the right to assign a participation grade of "0" for the day.

**Policies**

**Participation**

Speaking German, engaging in conversation within small groups, being active in class activities, and sharing with the entire class is required. German 235 is not a lecture course, but rather a conversation course, and as such your participation is essential, as is reflected in the portion of your grade devoted to class participation.

**Attendance**

Regular attendance to all class meetings is expected and required. German 235 requires you to be in attendance in order to learn. Please do everything you can to assure your attendance in German 235.
In the unfortunate event that you may be hospitalized or required to stay home on the advice of a physician due to an extended illness or in the event you must leave the university for a family emergency, it is your responsibility to contact the professor and make arrangements for compensating for the missed class meetings.

_Tardiness_

Conversation requires you to be present, from the beginning of the class meeting. If you are late to class, you will have missed the necessary introductory information upon which our discussions and activities depend. Consistent tardiness will not be tolerated.

_Food_

You are will be speaking in this class. Please do not expect to eat food during class.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be
provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help students succeed.
Our daily schedule is outlined below. We will devote the first two weeks to establishing the overall subject of our course, then we will focus more specifically on five distinct topics. Our plan is to spend two weeks on each topic, but the schedule may shift if we find we need more or less time for a particular topic. We will schedule presentations as outlined in the calendar.

Tag 1: Mittwoch, 20. Januar – Thema einführen
☐ Einführung in den Kurs und erste Gespräche

Tag 2: Freitag, 22. Januar
☐ Vokabular zum Thema

☐

Tag 4: Mittwoch, 27. Januar
☐

Tag 5: Freitag, 29. Januar
☐ Quiz über Was ist Nachhaltigkeit?

Tag 6: Montag, 1. Februar – Themen der Woche sind der ökologischer Rucksack und der CO₂-Fussabdruck
☐

Tag 7: Mittwoch, 3. Februar
☐

Tag 8: Freitag, 5. Februar
☐

Tag 9: Montag, 8. Februar – Themen der Woche sind der ökologischer Rucksack und der CO₂-Fussabdruck
☐

Tag 10: Mittwoch, 10. Februar
☐

Tag 11: Freitag, 12. Februar
☐ Quiz über den ökologischen Rucksack und den CO₂-Fussabdruck

Tag 12: Montag, 15. Februar – Thema der Woche ist Kleidung
☐

Tag 13: Mittwoch, 17. Februar
☐

Tag 14: Freitag, 19. Februar
☐
Tag 15: Montag, 22. Februar – Thema der Woche ist *Kleidung*

Tag 16: Mittwoch, 24. Februar

Tag 17: Freitag, 26. Februar
   □ Quiz über *Kleidung*

Tag 18: Montag, 29. Februar – Thema der Woche ist *die Weltreise eines Handys*

Tag 19: Mittwoch, 2. März

Tag 20: Freitag, 4. März

Tag 21: Montag, 7. März – Thema der Woche ist *die Weltreise eines Handys*

Tag 22: Mittwoch, 9. März

Tag 23: Freitag, 11. März
   □ Quiz über *die Weltreise eines Handys*

**Montag, 14. März**
*Frühlingsferien / Spring Break*

**Mittwoch, 16. März**
*Frühlingsferien / Spring Break*

**Freitag, 18. März**
*Frühlingsferien / Spring Break*

Tag 24: Montag, 21. März – Thema der Woche ist *Energie*

Tag 25: Mittwoch, 23. März

**Freitag, 25. März**
*Osterferien / Easter Break*
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Datum</th>
<th>Aktivität</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Montag, 28. März</td>
<td>Osterferien / Easter Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tag 26: Mittwoch, 30. März</td>
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<td>Tag 27: Freitag, 1. April</td>
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<td>Tag 28: Montag, 4. April – Thema der Woche ist Energie</td>
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<td>Tag 29: Mittwoch, 6. April</td>
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<td>Tag 30: Freitag, 8. April</td>
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<td>Quiz über Energie</td>
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<td>Tag 31: Montag, 11. April – Thema der Woche ist Wetter oder Unwetter?</td>
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<td>Tag 32: Mittwoch, 13. April</td>
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<td>Tag 33: Freitag, 15. April</td>
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<td>Tag 34: Montag, 18. April – Thema der Woche ist Wetter oder Unwetter?</td>
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<td>Tag 36: Freitag, 22. April</td>
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<td>Quiz über Wetter oder Unwetter?</td>
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<td>Tag 37: Montag, 25. April</td>
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<td>Präsentationen</td>
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<td>Tag 38: Mittwoch, 27. April</td>
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<td>Tag 39: Freitag, 29. April</td>
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<td>Präsentationen</td>
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</table>
Tag 40: Montag, 2. Mai
☐ Präsentationen

Tag 41: Mittwoch, 4. Mai
☐ Präsentationen

Tag 42: Freitag, 6. Mai
☐ Bilanzen ziehen

☐ Schlussprüfung / Final Exam
   Individual 20-Minute Oral interview on topic of your personal goals:
   13.00 Uhr bis 15.00 Uhr am Montag den 9ten Mai und nach Vereinbarung